IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A locating system comprising:

at least one data carrier located in an area, the at least one data carrier including a position sensor, a transmitter and a receiver;

an information unit which is remote from the at least one data carrier for storing area information and transmitting the area information to the at least one data carrier;

wherein said ~~at least one data carrier~~ transmitter transmits ~~it's~~ a position of said at least one data carrier to the information unit only in the case of initialization and movement of the at least one data carrier from the area and wherein a third party interrogates the information unit for the position of the at least one data carrier.

2. (Previously Presented) A locating system as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the at least one data carrier has a receiver for receiving area boundaries corresponding to the area, and a memory for storing the area boundaries and absolute position data, and a comparator for comparing the position data with the area information when the transmitter transmits the boundaries of the area to the at least one data carrier.

3. (Previously Presented) A method of locating an object provided with a data carrier located in an area, the method comprising:

the data carrier receiving position data from a position-determining system;

the data carrier transmitting position data to an information unit;

allocating the position data to an area in the information unit;

transmitting the boundaries of the area to the data carrier;

upon each movement of the data carrier comparing a position of the data carrier with the boundaries of the area;

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transmitting new position data to the information unit only in the case of a negative result of the comparison of the area boundaries transmitted by the information unit with the position of the data carrier; and

interrogating the information unit from a third party for the position of the data carrier.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the position data transmitted by the data carrier is translated into area data in the information unit and the area in which the data carrier is located is stored in the information unit.

Claims 5 and 6. (Canceled)

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